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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/13/2016 TAGS: NATO PREL MOPS SP UP

SUBJECT: SPAIN SUPPORTS CONTINUED EU, NATO ENGAGEMENT WITH

UKRAINE

REF: STATE 180222

Classified By: DCM Hugo Llorens for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

- 11. (C) Emboff delivered reftel demarche to Spanish Subdirector General for the EU Carlos Fernandez-Arias on November 2 and to Russia and Eastern Europe Desk Officer Iago Gil Aguado on November 8. Fernandez-Arias told Emboff that Ukraine is the most important non-EU European nation as far as Spain is concerned and that Spain absolutely favors continued engagement. He said that Spain would continue encouraging political reforms in Ukraine.
- 12. (C) Gil Aguado told Emboff that the MFA is closely following developments in Ukraine and finds the situation quite alarming. He noted that Ukraine appears to be "looking eastward" more than in recent years. He added that one of Spain's priorities during its 2007 OSCE presidency would be to encourage greater Ukrainian engagement with the West.

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